

REMARKS

Claims 1-51 are pending and stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101. In response, the independent claims in the group, claims 1, 6, 9, 11, 13, 18, 19, 24, 29, 32, 34, 36, 41, 42, 44, have each been amended to overcome the rejection.

In particular, claims 1, 6, 9, 18, 24, 29, 32, 34, 41 and 42 have each been amended to recite that the SNR – related parameter is “for one or more symbols received over a communication channel” and have further been amended to recite logic for or a step of “processing one or more symbols, received over the communication channel, using the SNR – related parameter.” This amendment is supported, for example, by page 1, lines 16-17, and Figure 2 and related text, at page 12, line 20, to page 13, lines 3, describing and illustrating scaling of one or more symbols, received over the communication channel, using the SNR – related parameter, and then quantizing of the scaled symbols. In one embodiment, as indicated at page 13, lines 2-3, the scaled and quantized symbols are then decoded. This scaling, quantizing and decoding are each examples of processing one or more of the symbols using the SNR – related parameter. This amendment overcomes the rejection because the claim, as amended, is directed to a practical application, the processing of one or more symbols, received over a communication channel, using the SNR –related parameter.

Similarly, claims 13, 19 and 36 have each been amended to recite that the SNR – related parameter is for “one or more symbols received over a communication channel” and have further been amended to recite logic for or a step of “scaling one or more symbols, received over a communication channel, using a scaling factor derived from the SNR – related parameter.” This amendment is supported, for example, by page 1, lines 16-17, and Figure 2 and related text, at page 12, line 20, to page 13, lines 3, describing and illustrating scaling of one or more of the symbols using the SNR – related parameter, and then quantizing of the scaled symbols. In one embodiment, as indicated at page 13, lines 2-3, the scaled and quantized symbols are then decoded. This scaling, quantizing and decoding are each examples of processing one or more of the symbols using the SNR

– related parameter. This amendment overcomes the rejection because the claim, as amended, is directed to a practical application, the processing of one or more symbols, received over a communication channel, using the SNR –related parameter.

Finally, claims 44 and 45 have been amended to recite a computer-readable medium encoded with a computer program. This amendment overcomes the rejection according to page 4 of the Office action, which states that “a claimed computer-readable medium encoded with a computer program is a computer element which defines structural and functional interrelationships between the computer program and the rest of the computer which permit the computer program’s functionality to be realized, and is thus statutory.”

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the application is now in good and proper condition for allowance. Early notification of allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 12, 2007

/Robert C. Laurensen/
Robert C. Laurensen, Reg. No. 34,206

HOWREY LLP
2941 Fairview Park Drive
Box No. 7
Falls Church, VA 22042
Telephone No. (650) 798-3570
Fax No. (650) 798-3600